

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 11 remain pending. Three claims are amended to correct questions of antecedent basis.

Claims 1 through 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as clearly anticipated by Gokcebay, U.S. Patent No. 5,552,777. In support of the rejection, the Examiner asserted that Gokcebay '777 inherently is attached to "some form of typical cam actuator." Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Gokcebay '777 discloses a solenoid operator 36 with a blocking pin 38 acting directly upon a cylinder, wholly independently from the chimney stack (not separately numbered in Figs. 3, 4 and 5) coupled to tumbler bores 52. In Paper No. 4 the Examiner expressly stated that Claims 1 through 3 are generic "to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species", and identified the species F (drawn to the embodiment shown in Applicant's Fig. 8H) as patentably distinct from the embodiments of species E, shown by Applicant's Figs. 8A-8G. The Examiner has in Paper No. 7 made this requirement final, and repeated the same statement in Paper No. 10. The embodiments of Gokcebay '777 correspond to non-elected species F. In contradistinction, Claims 1 and 6, as amended, define an array of apertures with the locking means in the electrical operator disposed within the aperture. This is, as noted by the Examiner in Papers 4, 7 and 10, "patentably distinct" from the embodiment shown in Applicant's Fig. 8H and in Gokcebay '777. Moreover, Claim 11 defines the locking means and electrical operator as affecting reciprocation of a bar, a feature wholly

absent from Gokcebay 777.

In view of the foregoing distinctions, Gokcebay 777 fails to make a *prima facie* showing of obviousness.

A Petition for a third month extension of time to and through the 5th of August 1998 and the incurred fee of **\$475.00 (Small Entity)** accompany this Amendment. Should the Petition become lost or separated, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this paragraph as the requisite written petition, and to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in such amount.

In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition to be passed to issue. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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